Projects delayed for Implementation

*667. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the projects sent for approval by the States are extraordinarily delayed as a result of which the cost/budget thereof goes up to a great extent and several other difficulties also crop up;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposed to issue directives to various institutions/Ministries to avoid such delays; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir. The techno-economic clearance to power projects gets delayed because the feasibility reports for projects sent by various State Electricity Boards/Utilities do not incorporate various inputs/clearances required for techno-economic appraisal by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Further, techno-economic clearance and investment approval depends upon several factors including the comprehensiveness of the project report received from the project authorities, time taken by the project authorities in replying to various comments/observations by the Central Electricity Authority and/or Central Water Commission, availability of various inputs and clearaces such as fuel availability, transportation of coal, gas, port facilities, water availability, clearance from Environment and Forest angles, constraints of funds etc.

(b) and (c). CEA had in 1978 issued guidelines for the preparation of feasibility reports for power projects to various State Electricity Boards/Utilities. The Government tries its best to ensure expeditious clearance of power projects.

Ongoing Irrigation Projects

*668. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sent any team to review the progress of ongoing irrigation projects in Gujarat and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the team has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Sorting Machines

*669. SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mechanical sorting machines installed in various post offices in the country and the cost thereof;

(b) the number of machines proposed to be installed during 1992-93 in the country;

(c) the number out of them to be installed in Karnataka;